



***Learning from the past to protect the future.***

**Alabama Department of Public Health  
State Team Meeting Minutes  
Montgomery, Alabama  
January 23, 2020**

State Team Members Present:

Conference Call:

Chief Jerry Taylor (Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police)  
LaBeatrix Tatum (Member of Clergy)  
Candice Dye, M.D. (UAB Pediatrics)  
David Rydzewski, M.D. (Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences)  
Michael Taylor, M. D. (Private Citizen, UAB Pediatrics)  
Jerry Williams (Alabama Coroner's Association)  
Scott Belton (Proxy for Director of Alabama Forensic Sciences)  
Bill Yates (Proxy for Chief Medical Examiner Dr. Gregory Davis)

Guests/Staff Present:

Kimberly Gordon (Proxy Dr. Harris Alabama State Health Officer, ADPH)  
Stuart Hoyle (ADPH)  
Gloria Davis (ADPH)  
Nicole P. Lovvorn (ADPH)  
Marsha Raulerson, M.D., FAAP (Alabama Academy of Pediatrics)  
Sheriff Bill Franklin (Alabama Sheriff's Association)  
Ilecia Cobb, M. D. (Proxy for Commissioner of Alabama Department of Mental Health)  
Lynn Bius (Alabama Network of Children's Advocacy Center)  
Tim Davis (Private Citizen Appointee)  
Sergeant Jeremy Baker (Proxy for Director of ALEA/Alabama Department of Public Safety)  
Robert Hinds (Private Citizen Appointee)  
Cindy Hines (Private Citizen Appointee)

### Call to Order:

On January 23, 2020 at 1:00 PM at the Montgomery County Health Department Auditorium in Montgomery, Alabama, the Alabama Child Death Review System (ACDRS) State Team meeting was called to order by Kimberly Gordon.

### Welcome of Members and Guests:

Mrs. Gordon welcomed state team members and Central Office staff, including those joining the meeting by conference call. Sergeant Jeremy Baker has joined the State Child Death Review Team as proxy for Director Charles Ward of ALEA/Department of Public Safety.

### Approval of Minutes:

A quorum was present and approved the minutes from October 19, 2017, April 19, 2018, July 19, 2018, October 18, 2018, March 4, 2019 and October 17, 2019.

### Recurring Business:

Mrs. Gordon reviewed that the 2016 Annual Report is in final stages of production and will be available to the State Team in the next week or two and would be the last to be released in the current format. Mrs. Gordon reviewed that 2017 and 2018 cases would be reviewed by means of an update and would be ready for release soon.

### Epidemiology Updates:

Mr. Stuart Hoyle, M.P.H, spoke with the team about current efforts to change the annual report methodology and approach. The child death review report and the process of reporting will no longer report a single closed data year but will now reflect the progress of all open data years. The new reports will be called Progress Reports. ACDRS is aiming to shift from surveillance to a more prevention-minded approach to child death. Mr. Hoyle advised that the change to a progress update will allow ACDRS to maintain a much shorter turnaround time for recommendations. Those recommendations will be timelier and reflect multiple data years and will be directly tied to the progress update in a more comprehensive manner.

### New Business:

Mrs. Gordon reviewed that death certificates are now going out quarterly and teams are being encouraged to meet quarterly to better meet prevention efforts. Mrs. Gordon advised that ACDRS is now fully staffed and making efforts with local circuits in encouraging them to maintain current cases and have quarterly meetings. Efforts are being made to shift the focus of Child Death Review to prevention. Contact has been made with all 41 Circuits since October of Death certificates are being mailed out quarterly and Central office staff is having regular contact with local team coordinators. Staff has also developed a Job Aide tool to assist local coordinators with stream-lining their review process. The tool identifies the most important statistics to allow teams to be able to focus more on prevention. Mrs. Gordon also reported that ACDRS is planning the bi-annual conference and working on the draft agenda. Mrs. Gordon asked for suggestions for additional topics and speakers. She has met with the Alabama Coroner's Association and will speak at their conference in April. She is also going to be part of a focus group to revise the Child Death Review Manual.

Mrs. Gordon also reviewed the possibility for an ACDRS Facebook page and advised the team that ACDRS cannot have a stand-alone page due to ADPH rules and asked if any members

would be interested in hosting the page. She reported that ACDRS would continue to maintain the page and provide the updates.

Mrs. Gloria Davis reviewed the approval of additional SUIDI funding and reported that ACDRS is planning to bring back last year's trainer from Florida and will provide additional details when available.

Public Health Educator Updates:

Mrs. Gordon reported that The Child Passenger Safety Coordinator email that went out to all local coordinators received some replies of interest and those names were given to Joshlynn Edwards to follow up.

Open Discussion:

Robert Hines suggested Vaping updates be added to agenda for the bi-annual conference and asked if the topic could be added to the Child Death Review Manual when Mrs. Gordon participates in the national focus group to review the manual.

Mr. Tim Davis suggested that the team look in to successful, local teams, as to why they are more successful than others.

Marsha Raulerson, M. D., FAAP, suggested adding the topic of suicide to the bi-annual conference agenda. She also suggested adding a section for pedestrian information on the newly developed Job Aide tool.

Tentative Meeting Date:

April 23, 2020, July 23, 2020 (phone conference), and October 22, 2020. Tentative times for all meetings will be 1:00 PM.

Executive Session (if necessary):

An executive session was not called during this meeting.

Adjourn:

There being no further items on the agenda and no further discussion requested, without objection, the meeting was adjourned.